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Geoff Hamill
Staff Writer

Luey DeMotto and William Light with the West Virginia Division of Highways (DOH) visited Grandpa's Pantry food store, near Marvin Chapel, in February and told proprietor Lois Mamak she had to remove her signs on Route 219. Light is a division chief with the DOH Charleston office and DeMotto works out of the Elkins office. Mamak, a former state employee, said Light acted in an unprofessional manner.

"Mr. Light was incredibly rude and intimidating," she said. "A lot of it was the attitude they came in with. He said,

'well, these small businesses on these side roads never do make it. I saw your signs last year but I didn't bother you because I didn't figure you'd be here this year.' That's just about a direct quote from him. I was somewhat insulted because he doesn't have any idea whether my business is going broke or making money. But I worked hard at it and I thought it was very unprofessional."

Mamak said Light told her the DOH would be "hard on her" if she was difficult.

Mamak told the officials that removing the signs would put her out of business. Light and DeMotto told her

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THE WEST VIRGINIA Division of Highways (DOH) ordered Lois Mamak, the proprietor of Grandpa's Pantry, to remove her business signs on Route 219 by May 6 or face fines as much as \$500. G. Hamill photo



STOP

MOUNTaintop LODGING



TURN HERE - 11 MILES

CASS SCENIC RAILROAD
STATE PARK



TRAIN RIDES - LODGING - HISTORICAL TOWN



FARM FRESH
EGGS

3.00/Doz









